Fables for Children

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A RAVEN AND A SWAN [۱]

A Raven, which you know is black as coal, was envious of the Swan, because her feathers were as white as the purest snow. The foolish bird got the idea that if he lived like the Swan, swimming and diving all day long and eating the weeds and plants .that grow in the water, his feathers would turn white like the Swan's

So he left his home in the woods and fields and flew down to live on the lakes and in the marshes. But though he washed and washed all day long, almost drowning himself at it, his feathers remained as black as ever. And as the water weeds he ate .did not agree with him, he got thinner and thinner, and at last he died

.A change of habits will not alter nature

BELLING THE CAT [۲]

The Mice once called a meeting to decide on a plan to free themselves of their enemy, the Cat. At least they wished to find some way of knowing when she was coming, so they might have time to run away. Indeed, something had to be done, for they lived in such constant fear of her claws that they hardly dared stir from their dens by night or .day

Many plans were discussed, but none of them was thought good enough. At last a :very young Mouse got up and said

I have a plan that seems very simple, but I know it will be successful. All we have to" do is to hang a bell about the Cat's neck. When we hear the

".bell ringing we will know immediately that our enemy is coming

All the Mice were much surprised that they had not thought of such a plan before. But

:in the midst of the rejoicing over their good fortune, an old Mouse arose and said

I will say that the plan of the young Mouse is very good. But let me ask one question:" "?Who will bell the Cat

It is one thing to say that something should be done, but quite a different matter to do .it

HERCULES AND THE WAGONER [۳]

A Farmer was driving his wagon along a miry country road after a heavy rain. The horses could hardly drag the load through the deep mud, and at last came to a .standstill when one of the wheels sank to the hub in a rut

The farmer climbed down from his seat and stood beside the wagon looking at it but without making the least effort to get it out of the rut. All he did was to curse his bad luck and call loudly on Hercules to come to his aid. Then, it is said, Hercules really did :appear, saying

Put your shoulder to the wheel, man, and urge on your horses. Do you think you can" move the wagon by simply looking at it and whining about it? Hercules will not help ".unless you make some effort to help yourself

And when the farmer put his shoulder to the wheel and urged on the horses, the wagon moved very readily, and soon the Farmer was riding along in great content and with

.a good lesson learned

.Self help is the best help

.Heaven helps those who help themselves

MERCURY AND THE WOODMAN [۴]

A poor Woodman was cutting down a tree near the edge of a deep pool in the forest. It was late in the day and the Woodman was tired. He had been working since sunrise

and his strokes were not so sure as they had been early that morning. Thus it .happened that the axe slipped and flew out of his hands into the pool

The Woodman was in despair. The axe was all he possessed with which to make a living, and he had not money enough to buy a new one. As he stood wringing his hands and weeping, the god Mercury suddenly appeared and asked what the trouble was. The Woodman told what had happened, and straightway the kind Mercury dived .into the pool. When he came up again he held a wonderful golden axe

.Is this your axe?" Mercury asked the Woodman"

".No," answered the honest Woodman, "that is not my axe"

Mercury laid the golden axe on the bank and sprang back into the pool. This time he brought up an axe of silver, but the Woodman declared again that his axe was just an .ordinary one with a wooden handle

Mercury dived down for the third time, and when he came up again he had the very .axe that had been lost

The poor Woodman was very glad that his axe had been found and could not thank .the kind god enough. Mercury was greatly pleased with the Woodman's honesty

I admire"

your honesty," he said, "and as a reward you may have all three axes, the gold and ".the silver as well as your own

The happy Woodman returned to his home with his treasures, and soon the story of his good fortune was known to everybody in the village. Now there were several Woodmen in the village who believed that they could easily win the same good fortune. They hurried out into the woods, one here, one there, and hiding their axes in the bushes, pretended they had lost them. Then they wept and wailed and called on .Mercury to help them

And indeed, Mercury did appear, first to this one, then to that. To each one he showed

an axe of gold, and each one eagerly claimed it to be the one he had lost. But Mercury did not give them the golden axe. Oh no! Instead he gave them each a hard whack over the head with it and sent them home. And when they returned next day to look for their own axes, they were nowhere to be found.

Honesty is the best policy.

THE ANTS AND THE GRASSHOPPER [۵]

One bright day in late autumn a family of Ants were bustling about in the warm sunshine, drying out the grain they had stored up during the summer, when a starving Grasshopper, his fiddle under his arm, came up and humbly begged for a bite to eat.

"What!" cried the Ants in surprise, "haven't you stored anything away for the winter? What in the world were you doing all last summer?"

"I didn't

have time to store up any food," whined the Grasshopper; "I was so busy making music that before I knew it the summer was gone."

The Ants shrugged their shoulders in disgust.

"Making music, were you?" they cried. "Very well; now dance!" And they turned their backs on the Grasshopper and went on with their work.

There's a time for work and a time for play.

THE ASTROLOGER [۶]

A man who lived a long time ago believed that he could read the future in the stars. He called himself an Astrologer, and spent his time at night gazing at the sky.

One evening he was walking along the open road outside the village. His eyes were fixed on the stars. He thought he saw there that the end of the world was at hand, when all at once, down he went into a hole full of mud and water.

There he stood up to his ears, in the muddy water, and madly clawing at the slippery .sides of the hole in his effort to climb out

His cries for help soon brought the villagers running. As they pulled him out of the :mud, one of them said

You pretend to read the future in the stars, and yet you fail to see what is at your" feet! This may teach you to pay more attention to what is right in front of you, and let ".the future take care of itself

What use is it," said another, "to read the stars, when you can't see what's right here" "?on the earth

Take care of the little

.things and the big things will take care of themselves

THE BAT AND THE WEASELS [٧]

A Bat blundered into the nest of a Weasel, who ran up to catch and eat him. The Bat .begged for his life, but the Weasel would not listen

You are a Mouse," he said, "and I am a sworn enemy of Mice. Every Mouse I catch, I" "!am going to eat

But I am not a Mouse!" cried the Bat. "Look at my wings. Can Mice fly? Why, I am only" "!a Bird! Please let me go

The Weasel had to admit that the Bat was not a Mouse, so he let him go. But a few days later, the foolish Bat went blindly into the nest of another Weasel. This Weasel happened to be a bitter enemy of Birds, and he soon had the Bat under his claws, .ready to eat him

"!You are a Bird," he said, "and I am going to eat you"

What," cried the Bat, "I, a Bird! Why, all Birds have feathers! I am nothing but a" "!Mouse. 'Down with all Cats,' is my motto

.And so the Bat escaped with his life a second time

.Set your sails with the wind

THE BEAR AND THE BEES [٨]

A Bear roaming the woods in search of berries happened on a fallen tree in which a swarm of Bees had stored their honey. The Bear began to nose around the log very carefully to find out if the Bees were at home. Just then one of the swarm came home from the clover field with a load of sweets. Guessing what the Bear was after, the Bee flew at him, stung him

.sharply and then disappeared into the hollow log

The Bear lost his temper in an instant, and sprang upon the log tooth and claw, to destroy the nest. But this only brought out the whole swarm. The poor Bear had to .take to his heels, and he was able to save himself only by diving into a pool of water

It is wiser to bear a single injury in silence than to provoke a thousand by flying into a .rage

THE BIRDS, THE BEASTS, AND THE BAT [٩]

The Birds and the Beasts declared war against each other. No compromise was possible, and so they went at it tooth and claw. It is said the quarrel grew out of the persecution the race of Geese suffered at the teeth of the Fox family. The Beasts, too, had cause for fight. The Eagle was constantly pouncing on the Hare, and the Owl .dined daily on Mice

It was a terrible battle. Many a Hare and many a Mouse died. Chickens and Geese fell .by the score—and the victor always stopped for a feast

Now the Bat family had not openly joined either side. They were a very politic race. So when they saw the Birds getting the better of it, they were Birds for all there was in it. .But when the tide of battle turned, they immediately sided with the Beasts

When the battle was over, the conduct of the Bats was discussed at the peace conference. Such deceit was unpardonable, and Birds and Beasts made common cause to drive out the Bats. And since then the Bat

.family hides in dark towers and deserted ruins, flying out only in the night

.The deceitful have no friends

THE BOY AND THE FILBERTS [۱۰]

A Boy was given permission to put his hand into a pitcher to get some filberts. But he took such a great fistful that he could not draw his hand out again. There he stood, unwilling to give up a single filbert and yet unable to get them all out at once. Vexed .and disappointed he began to cry

My boy," said his mother, "be satisfied with half the nuts you have taken and you will" easily get your hand out. Then perhaps you may have some more filberts some other ".time

.Do not attempt too much at once

THE BOYS AND THE FROGS [۱۱]

Some Boys were playing one day at the edge of a pond in which lived a family of Frogs. The Boys amused themselves by throwing stones into the pond so as to make .them skip on top of the water

The stones were flying thick and fast and the Boys were enjoying themselves very .much; but the poor Frogs in the pond were trembling with fear

At last one of the Frogs, the oldest and bravest, put his head out of the water, and said, "Oh, please, dear children, stop your cruel play! Though it may be fun for you, it "!means death to us

Always stop to think whether your fun may not be the cause of another's .unhappiness

THE BULL AND THE GOAT [۱۲]

A Bull once escaped from a Lion by entering a cave which the Goatherds used to house their flocks in stormy weather and at night. It happened that one of the Goats had been left behind, and the Bull had no sooner got inside than this Goat lowered his head and made a rush at him, butting him with his horns. As the Lion was still prowling .outside the entrance to the cave, the Bull had to submit to the insult

Do not think," he said, "that I submit to your cowardly treatment because I am afraid" ".of you. When that Lion leaves, I'll teach you a lesson you won't forget

.It is wicked to take advantage of another's distress

THE BUNDLE OF STICKS [۱۳]

A certain Father had a family of Sons, who were forever quarreling among themselves. No words he could say did the least good, so he cast about in his mind for some very striking example that should make them see that discord would lead them .to misfortune

One day when the quarreling had been much more violent than usual and each of the Sons was moping in a surly manner, he asked one of them to bring him a bundle of sticks. Then handing the bundle to each of his Sons in turn he told them to try to break .it. But although each one tried his best, none was able to do so

The Father then untied the bundle and gave the sticks to his Sons to break one by .one. This they did very easily

My Sons," said"

the Father, "do you not see how certain it is that if you agree with each other and help each other, it will be impossible for your enemies to injure you? But if you are divided ".among yourselves, you will be no stronger than a single stick in that bundle

.In unity is strength

THE CAT AND THE BIRDS [۱۴]

A Cat was growing very thin. As you have guessed, he did not get enough to eat. One day he heard that some Birds in the neighborhood were ailing and needed a doctor. So he put on a pair of spectacles, and with a leather box in his hand, knocked at the .door of the Bird's home

The Birds peeped out, and Dr. Cat, with much solicitude, asked how they were. He .would be very happy to give them some medicine

Tweet, tweet," laughed the Birds. "Very smart, aren't you? We are very well, thank " ".you, and more so, if you only keep away from here

.Be wise and shun the quack

THE CAT, THE ROOSTER, AND THE YOUNG MOUSE [۱۵]

A very young Mouse, who had never seen anything of the world, almost came to grief the very first time he ventured out. And this is the story he told his mother about his .adventures

I was strolling along very peaceably when, just as I turned the corner into the next" yard, I saw two strange creatures. One of them had a very kind and gracious look, but the other

.was the most fearful monster you can imagine. You should have seen him

On top of his head and in front of his neck hung pieces of raw red meat. He walked" about restlessly, tearing up the ground with his toes, and beating his arms savagely against his sides. The moment he caught sight of me he opened his pointed mouth as if to swallow me, and then he let out a piercing roar that frightened me almost to

".death

Can you guess who it was that our young Mouse was trying to describe to his mother? It was nobody but the Barnyard Rooster and the first one the little Mouse had ever

.seen

If it had not been for that terrible monster," the Mouse went on, "I should have made" the acquaintance of the pretty creature, who looked so good and gentle. He had thick, velvety fur, a meek face, and a look that was very modest, though his eyes were .bright and shining. As he looked at me he waved his fine long tail and smiled

I am sure he was just about to speak to me when the monster I have told you about" ".let out a screaming yell, and I ran for my life

My son," said the Mother Mouse, "that gentle creature you saw was none other than" the Cat. Under his kindly appearance, he bears a grudge against every one of us. The other was nothing but a bird who wouldn't harm you in the least. As for the Cat, he eats us. So be thankful, my child, that you escaped with your life, and, as long as you ".live, never judge people by their looks

.Do not trust alone to outward appearances

THE CROW AND THE PITCHER [۱۶]

In a spell of dry weather, when the Birds could find very little to drink, a thirsty Crow found a pitcher with a little water in it. But the pitcher was high and had a narrow .neck, and no matter how he tried, the Crow could not reach the water

.The poor thing felt as if he must die of thirst

Then an idea came to him. Picking up some small pebbles, he dropped them into the pitcher one by one. With each pebble the water rose a little higher until at last it was .near enough so he could drink

.In a pinch a good use of our wits may help us out

THE DOG AND HIS MASTER'S DINNER [۱۷]

A Dog had learned to carry his master's dinner to him every day. He was very faithful .to his duty, though the smell of the good things in the basket tempted him

The Dogs in the neighborhood noticed him carrying the basket and soon discovered what was in it. They made several attempts to steal it from him. But he always guarded it faithfully.

Then one day all the Dogs in the neighborhood got together and met him on his way with the basket. The Dog tried to run away from them. But at last he stopped to argue.

That was his mistake. They soon made him feel so ridiculous that he dropped the basket and seized a large piece of roast meat intended for his master's dinner.

"Very well," he said, "you divide the rest."

Do not stop to argue with temptation.

THE DOG AND THE OYSTER [۱۸]

There was once a Dog who was very fond of eggs. He visited the hen house very often and at last got so greedy that he would swallow the eggs whole.

One day the Dog wandered down to the seashore. There he spied an Oyster. In a twinkling the Oyster was resting in the Dog's stomach, shell and all.

It pained the Dog a good deal, as you can guess.

"I've learned that all round things are not eggs," he said groaning.

Act in haste and repent at leisure—and often in pain.

THE DOG IN THE MANGER [۱۹]

A Dog asleep in a manger filled with hay, was awakened by the Cattle, which came in tired and hungry from working in the field. But the Dog would not let them get near the manger, and snarled and snapped as if it were filled with the best of meat and bones, all for himself.

The Cattle looked at the Dog in disgust. "How selfish he is!" said one. "He cannot eat the hay and yet he will not let us eat it who are so hungry for it!"

Now the farmer came in. When he saw how the Dog was acting, he seized a stick and .drove him out of the stable with many a blow for his selfish behavior

.Do not grudge others what you cannot enjoy yourself

THE DOGS AND THE FOX [۲۰]

Some Dogs found the skin of a Lion and furiously began to tear it with their teeth. A .Fox chanced to see them and laughed scornfully

If that Lion had been alive," he said, "it would have been a very different story. He" ".would have made you feel how much sharper his claws are than your teeth

.It is easy and also contemptible to kick a man that is down

THE DOGS AND THE HIDES [۲۱]

Some hungry Dogs saw a number of hides at the bottom of a stream where the Tanner had put them to soak. A fine hide makes an excellent meal for a hungry Dog, but the water was deep and the Dogs could not reach the hides from the bank. So .they held a council and decided that the very best thing to do was to drink up the river

All fell to lapping up the water as fast as they could. But though they drank and drank until, one after another, all of them had burst with drinking, still, for all their effort, the .water in the river remained as high as ever

.Do not try to do impossible things

THE DOG, THE ROOSTER, AND THE FOX [۲۲]

A Dog and a Rooster, who were the best of friends, wished very much to see something of the world. So they decided to leave the farmyard and to set out into the world along the road that led to the woods. The two comrades traveled along in the .very best of spirits and without meeting any adventure to speak of

At nightfall the Rooster, looking for a place to roost, as was his custom, spied nearby a hollow tree that he thought would do very nicely for a night's lodging. The Dog could

creep inside and the Rooster would fly up on one of the branches. So said, so done, .and both slept very comfortably

With the first glimmer of dawn the Rooster awoke. For the moment he

forgot just where he was. He thought he was still in

the farmyard where it had been his duty to arouse the household at daybreak. So standing on tip-toes he flapped his wings and crowed lustily. But instead of awakening the farmer, he awakened a Fox not far off in the wood. The Fox immediately had rosy visions of a very delicious breakfast. Hurrying to the tree where the Rooster was :roosting, he said very politely

A hearty welcome to our woods, honored sir. I cannot tell you how glad I am to see" ".you here. I am quite sure we shall become the closest of friends

I feel highly flattered, kind sir," replied the Rooster slyly. "If you will please go around" ".to the door of my house at the foot of the tree, my porter will let you in

The hungry but unsuspecting Fox, went around the tree as he was told, and in a .twinkling the Dog had seized him

.Those who try to deceive may expect to be paid in their own coin

THE DONKEY AND HIS DRIVER [۲۳]

A Donkey was being driven along a road leading down the mountain side, when he suddenly took it into his silly head to choose his own path. He could see his stall at the foot of the mountain, and to him the quickest way down seemed to be over the edge of the nearest cliff. Just as he was about to leap over, his master caught him by the tail and tried to pull him back, but the stubborn Donkey would not yield and pulled with .all his might

,Very well," said his master"

".go your way, you willful beast, and see where it leads you"

With that he let go, and the foolish Donkey tumbled head over heels down the .mountain side

They who will not listen to reason but stubbornly go their own way against the friendly .advice of those who are wiser than they, are on the road to misfortune

THE DONKEY AND THE GRASSHOPPERS [۲۴]

One day as an Donkey was walking in the pasture, he found some Grasshoppers .chirping merrily in a grassy corner of the field

He listened with a great deal of admiration to the song of the Grasshoppers. It was such a joyful song that his pleasure-loving heart was filled with a wish to sing as they .did

What is it?" he asked very respectfully, "that has given you such beautiful voices? Is" there any special food you eat, or is it some divine nectar that makes you sing so "?wonderfully

Yes," said the Grasshoppers, who were very fond of a joke; "it is the dew we drink!" ".Try some and see

.So thereafter the Donkey would eat nothing and drink nothing but dew

.Naturally, the poor foolish Donkey soon died

.The laws of nature are unchangeable

THE DONKEY AND THE LAP DOG [۲۵]

.clattered eagerly into the house

There was once an Donkey whose Master also owned a Lap Dog. This Dog was a favorite and received many a pat and kind word from his Master, as well as choice bits from his plate. Every day the Dog would run to meet the Master, frisking playfully .about and leaping up to lick his hands and face

All this the Donkey saw with much discontent. Though he was well fed, he had much .work to do; besides, the Master hardly ever took any notice of him

Now the jealous Donkey got it into his silly head that all he had to do to win his Master's favor was to act like the Dog. So one day he left his stable and

Finding his

Master seated at the dinner table, he kicked up his heels and, with a loud bray, pranced giddily around the table, upsetting it as he did so. Then he planted his forefeet on his Master's knees and rolled out his tongue to lick the Master's face, as he had seen the Dog do. But his weight upset the chair, and Donkey and man rolled .over together in the pile of broken dishes from the table

The Master was much alarmed at the strange behavior of the Donkey, and calling for help, soon attracted the attention of the servants. When they saw the danger the Master was in from the clumsy beast, they set upon the Donkey and drove him with kicks and blows back to the stable. There they left him to mourn the foolishness that .had brought him nothing but a sound beating

.Behavior that is regarded as agreeable in one is very rude and impertinent in another

Do not try to gain favor by acting in a way that is contrary to your own nature and .character

THE DONKEY AND THE LOAD OF SALT [۲۶]

A Merchant, driving his Donkey homeward from the seashore with a heavy load of salt, came to a river crossed by a shallow ford. They had crossed this river many times before without accident, but this time the Donkey slipped and fell when halfway over. And when the Merchant at last got him to his feet, much of the salt had melted away. Delighted to find how much lighter his burden had become, the Donkey finished the journey very

.gaily

Next day the Merchant went for another load of salt. On the way home the Donkey, remembering what had happened at the ford, purposely let himself fall into the water, .and again got rid of most of his burden

The angry Merchant immediately turned about and drove the Donkey back to the seashore, where he loaded him with two great baskets of sponges. At the ford the Donkey again tumbled over; but when he had scrambled to his feet, it was a very disconsolate Donkey that dragged himself homeward under a load ten times heavier .than before

.The same measures will not suit all circumstances

THE DONKEY CARRYING THE ^IMAGEpng [۲۷]

A sacred ^image was being carried to the temple. It was mounted on an pngDonkey adorned with garlands and gorgeous trappings, and a grand procession of priests and pages followed it through the streets. As the Donkey walked along, the people bowed their heads reverently or fell on their knees, and the Donkey thought the honor was .being paid to himself

With his head full of this foolish idea, he became so puffed up with pride and vanity that he halted and started to bray loudly. But in the midst of his song, his driver guessed what the Donkey had got into his head, and began to beat him unmercifully .with a stick

Go along with you, you stupid Donkey," he cried. "The honor is not meant for you but" for the ^image you are carrying."png

.Do not try to take the credit to yourself that is due to others

THE DONKEY, THE FOX, AND THE LION [۲۸]

An Donkey and a Fox had become close comrades, and were constantly in each other's company. While the Donkey cropped a fresh bit of greens, the Fox would devour a chicken from the neighboring farmyard or a bit of cheese filched from the

dairy. One day the pair unexpectedly met a Lion. The Donkey was very much .frightened, but the Fox calmed his fears

.I will talk to him," he said"

.So the Fox walked boldly up to the Lion

Your highness," he said in an undertone, so the Donkey could not hear him, "I've got" a fine scheme in my head. If you promise not to hurt me, I will

lead that foolish creature yonder into a pit where he can't get out, and you can feast ".at your pleasure

.The Lion agreed and the Fox returned to the Donkey

I made him promise not to hurt us," said the Fox. "But come, I know a good place to" ".hide till he is gone

So the Fox led the Donkey into a deep pit. But when the Lion saw that the Donkey was .his for the taking, he first of all struck down the traitor Fox

.Traitors may expect treachery

THE EAGLE AND THE BEETLE [۲۹]

A Beetle once begged the Eagle to spare a Hare which had run to her for protection. But the Eagle pounced upon her prey, the sweep of her great wings tumbling the Beetle a dozen feet away. Furious at the disrespect shown her, the Beetle flew to the Eagle's nest and rolled out the eggs. Not one did she spare. The Eagle's grief and .anger knew no bounds, but who had done the cruel deed she did not know

Next year the Eagle built her nest far up on a mountain crag; but the Beetle found it and again destroyed the eggs. In despair the Eagle now implored great Jupiter to let .her place her eggs in his lap

There none would dare harm them. But the Beetle buzzed about Jupiter's head, and .made him rise to drive her away; and the eggs rolled from his lap

Now the Beetle told the reason for her action, and Jupiter had to acknowledge the ,justice of her cause. And they say that ever after

while the Eagle's eggs lie in the nest in spring, the Beetle still sleeps in the ground. For .so Jupiter commanded

.Even the weakest may find means to avenge a wrong

THE EAGLE AND THE JACKDAW [۳۰]

An Eagle, swooping down on powerful wings, seized a lamb in her talons and made off with it to her nest. A Jackdaw saw the deed, and his silly head was filled with the idea that he was big and strong enough to do as the Eagle had done. So with much rustling of feathers and a fierce air, he came down swiftly on the back of a large Ram. But when he tried to rise again he found that he could not get away, for his claws were tangled in the wool. And so far was he from carrying away the Ram, that the Ram .hardly noticed he was there

The Shepherd saw the fluttering Jackdaw and at once guessed what had happened. Running up, he caught the bird and clipped its wings. That

.evening he gave the Jackdaw to his children

"?What a funny bird this is!" they said laughing, "what do you call it, father"

That is a Jackdaw, my children. But if you should ask him, he would say he is an" ".Eagle

.Do not let your vanity make you overestimate your powers

THE FARMER AND HIS SONS [۳۱]

.two or three times

A rich old farmer, who felt that he had not many more days to live, called his sons to .his bedside

My sons," he said, "heed what I have to say to you. Do not on any account part with" the estate that has belonged to our family for so many generations. Somewhere on it ,is hidden a rich treasure. I do not know the exact spot, but it is there

and you will surely find it. Spare no energy and leave no spot unturned in your ".search

The father died, and no sooner was he in his grave than the sons set to work digging with all their might, turning up every foot of ground with their spades, and going over the whole farm

No hidden gold did they find; but at harvest time when they had settled their accounts and had pocketed a rich profit far greater than that of any of their neighbors, they understood that the treasure their father had told them about was the wealth of a .bountiful crop, and that in their industry had they found the treasure

.Industry is itself a treasure

THE FARMER AND THE CRANES [۳۲]

Some Cranes saw a farmer plowing a large field. When the work of plowing was done, .they patiently watched him sow the seed. It was their feast, they thought

So, as soon as the Farmer had finished planting and had gone home, down they flew .to the field, and began to eat as fast as they could

The Farmer, of course, knew the Cranes and their ways. He had had experience with such birds before. He soon returned to the field with a sling. But he did not bring any stones with him. He expected to scare the Cranes just by swinging the sling in the air, .and shouting loudly at them

At first the Cranes flew away in great terror. But they soon began to see that none of them ever got hurt. They did not even hear the noise of stones

whizzing through the air, and as for words, they would kill nobody. At last they paid no .attention whatever to the Farmer

The Farmer saw that he would have to take other measures. He wanted to save at least some of his grain. So he loaded his sling with stones and killed several of the Cranes. This had the effect the Farmer wanted, for from that day the Cranes visited .his field no more

.Bluff and threatening words are of little value with rascals

.Bluff is no proof that hard fists are lacking

THE FARMER AND THE SNAKE [۳۳]

A Farmer walked through his field one cold winter morning. On the ground lay a Snake, stiff and frozen with the cold. The Farmer knew how deadly the Snake could .be, and yet he picked it up and put it in his bosom to warm it back to life

The Snake soon revived, and when it had enough strength, bit the man who had been so kind to it. The bite was deadly and the Farmer felt that he must die. As he drew his :last breath, he said to those standing around

.Learn from my fate not to take pity on a scoundrel

THE FARMER AND THE STORK [۳۴]

A Stork of a very simple and trusting nature had been asked by a gay party of Cranes to visit a field that had been newly planted. But the party ended dismally with all the .birds entangled in the meshes of the Farmer's net

.The Stork begged the Farmer to spare him

Please let me go," he pleaded. "I belong to the Stork family who you know are honest" ".and birds of good character. Besides, I did not know the Cranes were going to steal

You may be a very good bird," answered the Farmer, "but I caught you with the" ".thieving Cranes and you will have to share the same punishment with them

.You are judged by the company you keep

THE FIGHTING BULLS AND THE FROG [۳۵]

Two Bulls were fighting furiously in a field, at one side of which was a marsh. An old .Frog living in the marsh, trembled as he watched the fierce battle

.What are you afraid of?" asked a young Frog"

Do you not see," replied the old Frog, "that the Bull who is beaten, will be driven" away from the good forage up there to the reeds of this marsh, and we shall all be "?trampled into the mud

It turned out as the Frog had said. The beaten Bull was driven to the marsh, where his .great hoofs crushed the Frogs to death

.When the great fall out, the weak must suffer for it

THE FOX AND THE CRAB [۳۶]

A Crab one day grew disgusted with the sands in which he lived. He decided to take a stroll to the meadow not far inland. There he would find better fare than briny water and sand mites. So off he crawled to the meadow. But there a hungry Fox spied him, .and in a twinkling, ate him up, both shell and claw

.Be content with your lot

THE FOX AND THE GOAT [۳۷]

.woods

A Fox fell into a well, and though it was not very deep, he found that he could not get out again. After he had been in the well a long time, a thirsty Goat came by. The Goat .thought the Fox had gone down to drink, and so he asked if the water was good

The finest in the whole country," said the crafty Fox, "jump in and try it. There is" ".more than enough for both of us

The thirsty Goat immediately jumped in and began to drink. The Fox just as quickly

.jumped on the Goat's back and leaped from the tip of the Goat's horns out of the well

The foolish Goat now saw what a plight he had got into, and begged the Fox to help him out. But the Fox was already on his way to the

If you had as much sense as you have beard, old fellow," he said as he ran, "you" would have been more cautious about finding a way to get out again before you ".jumped in

.Look before you leap

THE FOX AND THE GRAPES [۳۸]

A Fox one day spied a beautiful bunch of ripe grapes hanging from a vine trained along the branches of a tree. The grapes seemed ready to burst with juice, and the .Fox's mouth watered as he gazed longingly at them

The bunch hung from a high branch, and the Fox had to jump for it. The first time he jumped he missed it by a long way. So he walked off a short distance and took a running

.leap at it, only to fall short once more. Again and again he tried, but in vain

.Now he sat down and looked at the grapes in disgust

What a fool I am," he said. "Here I am wearing myself out to get a bunch of sour" ".grapes that are not worth gaping for

.And off he walked very, very scornfully

.There are many who pretend to despise and belittle that which is beyond their reach

THE FOX AND THE HEDGEHOG [۳۹]

A Fox, swimming across a river, was barely able to reach the bank, where he lay bruised and exhausted from his struggle with the swift current. Soon a swarm of blood-sucking flies settled on him; but he lay quietly, still too weak to run away from

.them

.A Hedgehog happened by. "Let me drive the flies away," he said kindly

No, no!" exclaimed the Fox, "do not disturb them! They have taken all they can hold." If you drive them away, another greedy swarm will come and take the little blood I ".have left

.Better to bear a lesser evil than to risk a greater in removing it

THE FOX AND THE LEOPARD [۴۰]

A Fox and a Leopard, resting lazily after a generous dinner, amused themselves by disputing about their good looks. The Leopard was very proud of his glossy, spotted coat and made disdainful remarks about the Fox, whose appearance he declared was .quite ordinary

The Fox prided himself on his fine bushy tail with its tip of white, but he was wise enough to see that he could not rival the Leopard in looks. Still he kept up a flow of sarcastic talk, just to exercise his wits and to have the fun of disputing. The Leopard .was about to lose his temper when the Fox got up, yawning lazily

You may have a very smart coat," he said, "but you would be a great deal better off if" you had a little more smartness inside your head and less on your ribs, the way I am. ".That's what I call real beauty

A

.fine coat is not always an indication of an attractive mind

THE FOX AND THE LION [۴۱]

A very young Fox, who had never before seen a Lion, happened to meet one in the forest. A single look was enough to send the Fox off at top speed for the nearest .hiding place

The second time the Fox saw the Lion he stopped behind a tree to look at him a

moment before slinking away. But the third time, the Fox went boldly up to the Lion ".and, without turning a hair, said, "Hello, there, old top

.Familiarity breeds contempt

.Acquaintance with evil blinds us to its dangers

THE FOX AND THE STORK [۴۲]

The Fox one day thought of a plan to amuse himself at the expense of the Stork, at .whose odd appearance he was always laughing

You must come and dine with me today," he said to the Stork, smiling to himself at" the trick he was going to play. The Stork gladly accepted the invitation and arrived in .good time and with a very good appetite

For dinner the Fox served soup. But it was set out in a very shallow dish, and all the Stork could do

was to wet the very tip of his

bill. Not a drop of soup could he get. But the Fox lapped it up easily, and, to increase .the disappointment of the Stork, made a great show of enjoyment

The hungry Stork was much displeased at the trick, but he was a calm, even-tempered fellow and saw no good in flying into a rage. Instead, not long afterward, he invited the Fox to dine with him in turn. The Fox arrived promptly at the

time that had been set, and the Stork served a fish dinner that had a very appetizing smell. But it was

served in a tall jar with a very narrow neck. The Stork could easily get at the food with his long bill, but all the Fox could do was to lick the outside of the jar, and sniff at the :delicious odor. And when the Fox lost his temper, the Stork said calmly

Do not play tricks on your neighbors unless you can stand the same treatment .yourself

THE FROG AND THE MOUSE [۴۳]

A young Mouse in search of adventure was running along the bank of a pond where :lived a Frog. When the Frog saw the Mouse, he swam to the bank and croaked

".Won't you pay me a visit? I can promise you a good time if you do"

The Mouse did not need much coaxing, for he was very anxious to see the world and everything in it. But though he could swim a little, he did not dare risk going into the .pond without some help

The Frog had a plan. He tied the Mouse's leg to his own with a tough reed. Then into .the pond he jumped, dragging his foolish companion with him

The Mouse soon had enough of it and wanted to return to shore; but the treacherous Frog had other plans. He pulled the Mouse down under the water and drowned him. But before he could untie the reed that bound him to the dead Mouse, a Hawk came sailing over the pond. Seeing the body of

the Mouse floating on the water, the Hawk swooped down, seized the Mouse and carried it off, with the Frog dangling from its leg. Thus at one swoop he had caught .both meat and fish for his dinner

Those who seek to harm others often come to harm themselves through their own .deceit

THE FROGS AND THE OX [۴۴]

An Ox came down to a reedy pool to drink. As he splashed heavily into the water, he crushed a young Frog into the mud. The old Frog soon missed the little one and asked .his brothers and sisters what had become of him

A great big monster," said one of them, "stepped on little brother with one of his" "!huge feet

"?Big, was he!" said the old Frog, puffing herself up. "Was he as big as this"

.Oh, much bigger!" they cried. The Frog puffed up still more"

He could not have been bigger than this," she said. But the little Frogs all declared" that the monster was much, much bigger and the old Frog kept puffing herself out .more and more until, all at once, she burst

.Do not attempt the impossible

THE FROGS WHO WISHED FOR A KING [۴۵]

The Frogs were tired of governing themselves. They had so much freedom that it had spoiled them, and they did nothing but sit around croaking in a bored manner and wishing for a government that could entertain them with the pomp and display of royalty, and rule them in a way to make them know they were being ruled. No milk and water government for them, they declared. So they sent a petition to Jupiter .asking for a king

Jupiter saw what simple and foolish creatures they were, but to keep them quiet and make them think they had a king he threw down a huge log, which fell into the water .with a great splash

The Frogs hid themselves among the reeds and grasses, thinking the new

king to be some fearful giant. But they soon discovered how tame and peaceable King Log was. In a short time the younger Frogs were using him for a diving platform, while the older Frogs made him a meeting place, where they complained loudly to Jupiter .about the government

To teach the Frogs a lesson the ruler of the gods now sent a Crane to be king of Frogland. The Crane proved to be a very different sort of king from old King Log. He gobbled up the poor Frogs right and left and they soon saw what fools they had been. In mournful croaks they begged Jupiter to take away the cruel tyrant before they .should all be destroyed

How now!" cried Jupiter "Are you not yet content? You have what you asked for and"

".so you have only yourselves to blame for your misfortunes

.Be sure you can better your condition before you seek to change

THE GNAT AND THE BULL [۴۶]

A Gnat flew over the meadow with much buzzing for so small a creature and settled on the tip of one of the horns of a Bull. After he had rested a short time, he made ready to fly away. But before he left he begged the Bull's pardon for having used his .horn for a resting place

.You must be very glad to have me go now," he said"

".It's all the same to me," replied the Bull. "I did not even know you were there"

We are often of greater importance in our own eyes than in the eyes of our

.neighbor

.The smaller the mind the greater the conceit

THE GOATHERD AND THE GOAT [۴۷]

A Goat strayed away from the flock, tempted by a patch of clover. The Goatherd tried to call it back, but in vain. It would not obey him. Then he picked up a stone and threw .it, breaking the Goat's horn

.The Goatherd was frightened

.Do not tell the master," he begged the Goat"

"!No," said the Goat, "that broken horn can speak for itself"

.Wicked deeds will not stay hid

THE GOATHERD AND THE WILD GOATS [۴۸]

One cold stormy day a Goatherd drove his Goats for shelter into a cave, where a

number of Wild Goats had also found their way. The Shepherd wanted to make the Wild Goats part of his flock; so he fed them well. But to his own flock, he gave only just enough food to keep them alive. When the weather cleared, and the Shepherd led the .Goats out to feed, the Wild Goats scampered off to the hills

Is that the thanks I get for feeding you and treating you so well?" complained the" .Shepherd

Do not expect us to join your flock," replied one of the Wild Goats. "We know how" ".you would treat us later on, if some strangers should come as we did

.It is unwise to treat old friends badly for the sake of new ones

THE GOOSE AND THE GOLDEN EGG [۴۹]

There was once a Countryman who possessed the most wonderful Goose you can imagine, for every day when he visited the nest, the Goose had laid a beautiful, .glittering, golden egg

The Countryman took the eggs to market and soon began to get rich. But it was not long before he grew impatient with the Goose because she gave him only a single .golden egg a day. He was not getting rich fast enough

Then one day, after he had finished counting his money, the idea came to him that he could get all the golden eggs at once by killing the Goose and cutting it open. But when the deed was done, not a single golden egg did he

.find, and his precious Goose was dead

.Those who have plenty want more and so lose all they have

THE HARES AND THE FROGS [۵۰]

Hares, as you know, are very timid. The least shadow, sends them scurrying in fright to a hiding place. Once they decided to die rather than live in such misery. But while they were debating how best to meet death, they thought they heard a noise and in a

flash were scampering off to the warren. On the way they passed a pond where a family of Frogs was sitting among the reeds on the bank. In an instant the startled .Frogs were seeking safety in the mud

Look," cried a Hare, "things are not so bad after all, for here are creatures who are" "!even afraid of us

However unfortunate we may think we are there is always someone worse off than .ourselves

THE HERON [۵۱]

A Heron was walking sedately along the bank of a stream, his eyes on the clear water, and his long neck and pointed bill ready to snap up a likely morsel for his breakfast. The clear water swarmed with fish, but Master Heron was hard to please that .morning

".No small fry for me," he said. "Such scanty fare is not fit for a Heron"

.Now a fine young Perch swam near

No indeed," said the Heron. "I wouldn't even trouble to open my beak for anything" "!like that

As the sun rose, the fish left the shallow water near the shore and swam below into

the cool depths toward the middle. The Heron saw no more fish, and very glad was he .at last to breakfast on a tiny Snail

Do not be too hard to suit or

.you may have to be content with the worst or with nothing at all

THE KID AND THE WOLF [۵۲]

A frisky young Kid had been left by the herdsman on the thatched roof of a sheep shelter to keep him out of harm's way. The Kid was browsing near the edge of the

roof, when he spied a Wolf and began to jeer at him, making faces and abusing him to .his heart's content

I hear you," said the Wolf, "and I haven't the least grudge against you for what you" ".say or do. When you are up there it is the roof that's talking, not you

.Do not say anything at any time that you would not say at all times

THE LEAP AT RHODES [۵۳]

A certain man who visited foreign lands could talk of little when he returned to his home except the wonderful adventures he had met with and the great deeds he had .done abroad

One of the feats he told about was a leap he had made in a city Called Rhodes. That leap was so great, he said, that no other man could leap anywhere near the distance. A great many persons in Rhodes had seen him do it and would prove that what he told .was true

No need of witnesses," said one of the hearers. "Suppose this city is Rhodes. Now" ".show us how far you can jump

.Deeds count, not boasting words

THE LION AND THE DONKEY [۵۴]

One day as the Lion walked proudly down a forest aisle, and the animals respectfully .made way for him, an Donkey brayed a scornful remark as he passed

The Lion felt a flash of anger. But when he turned his head and saw who had spoken, he walked quietly on. He would not honor the fool with even so much as a stroke of his .claws

.Do not resent the remarks of a fool. Ignore them

THE LION AND THE DONKEY [۵۵]

A Lion and a Donkey agreed to go hunting together. In their search for game the hunters saw a number of Wild Goats run into a cave, and laid plans to catch them. The Donkey was to go into the cave and drive the Goats out, while the Lion would stand at .the entrance to strike them down

The plan worked beautifully. The Donkey made such a frightful din in the cave, kicking and braying with all his might, that the Goats came running out in a panic of fear, only .to fall victim to the Lion

The Donkey came proudly out of the cave. "Did you see how I made them run?" he .said

Yes, indeed," answered the Lion, "and if I had not known you and your kind I should" ".certainly have run, too

.The loud-mouthed boaster does not impress nor frighten those who know him

THE LION AND THE GNAT [۵۶]

Away with you, vile insect!" said a Lion angrily to a Gnat that was buzzing around his" .head. But the Gnat was not in the least disturbed

Do you think," he said spitefully to the Lion, "that I am afraid of you because they call" "?you king

The next instant he flew at the Lion and stung him sharply on the nose. Mad with rage, the Lion struck fiercely at the Gnat, but only succeeded in tearing himself with his claws. Again and again the Gnat stung the Lion, who now was roaring terribly. At last, worn out with rage and covered with wounds that his own teeth and

claws had made, the Lion

.gave up the fight

The Gnat buzzed away to tell the whole world about his victory, but instead he flew straight into a spider's web. And there, he who had defeated the King of beasts came

.to a miserable end, the prey of a little spider

The least of our enemies is often the most to be feared. Pride over a success should .not throw us off our guard

THE LION AND THE MOUSE [۵۷]

A Lion lay asleep in the forest, his great head resting on his paws. A timid little Mouse came upon him unexpectedly, and in her fright and haste to get away, ran across the Lion's nose. Roused from his nap, the Lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny .creature to kill her

Spare me!" begged the poor Mouse. "Please let me go and some day I will surely" ".repay you

The Lion was much amused to think that a Mouse could ever help him. But he was .generous and finally let the Mouse go

Some days later, while stalking his prey in the forest, the Lion was caught in the toils of a hunter's net. Unable to free himself, he filled the forest with his angry roaring. The Mouse knew the voice and quickly found the Lion struggling in the net. Running to one of the great ropes that bound him, she gnawed it until it parted, and soon the Lion was .free

You laughed when I said I would repay you," said the Mouse. "Now you see that" ".even a Mouse can help a Lion

.A kindness is never wasted

THE LION, THE BEAR, AND THE FOX [۵۸]

Just as a great Bear rushed to seize a stray kid, a Lion leaped from another direction upon the same prey. The two fought furiously for the prize until they had received so .many wounds that both sank down unable to continue the battle

Just then a Fox dashed up, and seizing the kid, made off with it as fast as he could go,

while the Lion and

.the Bear looked on in helpless rage

".How much better it would have been," they said, "to have shared in a friendly spirit"

.Those who have all the toil do not always get the profit

THE MAN AND THE LION [۵۹]

A Lion and a Man chanced to travel in company through the forest. They soon began to quarrel, for each of them boasted that he and his kind were far superior to the .other both in strength and mind

Now they reached a clearing in the forest and there stood a statue. It was a .representation of Heracles in the act of tearing the jaws of the Nemean Lion

See," said the man, "that's how strong we are! The King of Beasts is like wax in our" "!hands

Ho!" laughed the Lion, "a Man made that statue. It would have been quite a different" "!scene had a Lion made it

.It all depends on the point of view, and who tells the story

THE MICE AND THE WEASELS [۶۰]

The Weasels and the Mice were always up in arms against each other. In every battle the Weasels carried off the victory, as well as a large number of the Mice, which they ate for dinner next day. In despair the Mice called a council, and there it was decided that the Mouse army was always beaten because it had no leaders. So a large number of generals and commanders were appointed from among the most eminent .Mice

To distinguish themselves from the soldiers in the ranks, the new leaders proudly bound on their heads lofty crests and ornaments of feathers or straw. Then after long preparation of the Mouse army in all the arts of war, they sent a challenge to the

.Weasels

The Weasels accepted the challenge with eagerness, for they were always ready for a

fight when a meal was in sight. They immediately attacked the Mouse army in large numbers. Soon the Mouse line gave way before the attack and the whole army fled for cover. The privates easily slipped into their holes, but the Mouse leaders could not squeeze through the narrow openings because of their head-dresses. Not one .escaped the teeth of the hungry Weasels

.Greatness has its penalties

THE MILKMAID AND HER PAIL [۶۱]

"!about their business

A Milkmaid had been out to milk the cows and was returning from the field with the shining milk pail balanced nicely on her head. As she walked along, her pretty head .was busy with plans for the days to come

This good, rich milk," she mused, "will give me plenty of cream to churn. The butter I" make I will take to market, and with the money I get for it I will buy a lot of eggs for hatching. How nice it will be when they are all hatched and the yard is full of fine young chicks. Then when May day comes I will sell them, and with the money I'll buy a lovely new dress to wear to the fair. All the young men will look at me. They will come and try to make love to me,— but I shall very quickly send them

As she thought of how she would settle that matter, she tossed her head scornfully, and down fell the pail of milk to the ground. And all the milk flowed out, and with it vanished butter and eggs and chicks

.and new dress and all the milkmaid's pride

.Do not count your chickens before they are hatched

THE MISER [۶۲]

.happened

A Miser had buried his gold in a secret place in his garden. Every day he went to the spot, dug up the treasure and counted it piece by piece to make sure it was all there. He made so many trips that a Thief, who had been observing him, guessed what it was the Miser had hidden, and one night quietly dug up the treasure and made off .with it

When the Miser discovered his loss, he was overcome with grief and despair. He .groaned and cried and tore his hair

A passerby heard his cries and asked what had

"!My gold! O my gold!" cried the Miser, wildly, "someone has robbed me"

Your gold! There in that hole? Why did you put it there? Why did you not keep it in the" "?house where you could easily get it when you had to buy things

Buy!" screamed the Miser angrily. "Why, I never touched the gold. I couldn't think of" ".spending any of it

.The stranger picked up a large stone and threw it into the hole

If that is the case," he said, "cover up that stone. It is worth just as much to you as" "!the treasure you lost

.A possession is worth no more than the use we make of it

THE MONKEY AND THE CAMEL [۶۳]

At a great celebration in honor of King Lion, the Monkey was asked to dance for the company. His dancing was very clever indeed, and the animals were all highly pleased .with his grace and lightness

.The praise that was showered on the Monkey made the Camel envious

He was very sure that he could dance quite as well as the Monkey, if not better, so he pushed his way into the crowd that was gathered around the Monkey, and rising on

his hind legs, began to dance. But the big hulking Camel made himself very ridiculous as he kicked out his knotty legs and twisted his long clumsy neck. Besides, the animals .found it hard to keep their toes from under his heavy hoofs

At last, when one of his huge feet came within an inch of King Lion's nose, the animals were so disgusted that they set upon the Camel in a rage and drove him out into the .desert

Shortly afterward, refreshments, consisting mostly of Camel's hump and ribs, were .served to the company

.Do not try to imitate your betters

THE MONKEY AND THE CAT [۶۴]

Once upon a time a Cat and a Monkey lived as pets in the same house. They were great friends and were constantly in all sorts of mischief together. What they seemed to think of more than anything else was to get something to eat, and it did not matter .much to them how they got it

One day they were sitting by the fire, watching some chestnuts roasting on the .hearth. How to get them was the question

I would gladly get them," said the cunning Monkey, "but you are much more skillful at" ".such things than I am. Pull them out and I'll divide them between us

Pussy stretched out her paw very carefully, pushed aside some of the cinders, and drew back her

paw very quickly. Then she tried it again, this time pulling a chestnut half out of the fire. A third time and she drew out the chestnut. This performance she went through several times, each time singeing her paw severely. As fast as she pulled the .chestnuts out of the fire, the Monkey ate them up

Now the master came in, and away scampered the rascals, Mistress Cat with a burnt paw and no chestnuts. From that time on, they say, she contented herself with mice .and rats and had little to do with Sir Monkey

.The flatterer seeks some benefit at your expense

THE MONKEY AND THE DOLPHIN [۶۵]

.dignified, on the Dolphin's back

It happened once upon a time that a certain Greek ship bound for Athens was wrecked off the coast close to Piraeus, the port of Athens. Had it not been for the Dolphins, who at that time were very friendly toward mankind and especially toward Athenians, all would have perished. But the Dolphins took the shipwrecked people on .their backs and swam with them to shore

Now it was the custom among the Greeks to take their pet monkeys and dogs with them whenever they went on a voyage. So when one of the Dolphins saw a Monkey struggling in the water, he thought it was a man, and made the Monkey climb up on .his back. Then off he swam with him toward the shore

The Monkey sat up, grave and

.You are a citizen of illustrious Athens, are you not?" asked the Dolphin politely"

Yes," answered the Monkey, proudly. "My family"

".is one of the noblest in the city

".Indeed," said the Dolphin. "Then of course you often visit Piraeus"

Yes, yes," replied the Monkey. "Indeed, I do. I am with him constantly. Piraeus is my" ".very best friend

This answer took the Dolphin by surprise, and, turning his head, he now saw what it was he was carrying. Without more ado, he dived and left the foolish Monkey to take .care of himself, while he swam off in search of some human being to save

.One falsehood leads to another

THE MOUSE AND THE WEASEL [۶۶]

A little hungry Mouse found his way one day into a basket of corn. He had to squeeze himself a good deal to get through the narrow opening between the strips of the basket. But the corn was tempting and the Mouse was determined to get in. When at last he had succeeded, he gorged himself to bursting. Indeed he became about three .times as big around the middle as he was when he went in

At last he felt satisfied and dragged himself to the opening to get out again. But the best he could do was to get his head out. So there he sat groaning and moaning, both .from the discomfort inside him and his anxiety to escape from the basket

.Just then a Weasel came by. He understood the situation quickly

My friend," he said, "I know what you've been doing. You've been stuffing. That's" what you get. You will have to stay there till you feel just like you did when you went in. Good night, and

".good enough for you

.And that was all the sympathy the poor Mouse got

.Greediness leads to misfortune

THE MULE [۶۷]

A Mule had had a long rest and much good feeding. He was feeling very vigorous .indeed, and pranced around loftily, holding his head high

".My father certainly was a full-blooded racer," he said. "I can feel that distinctly"

Next day he was put into harness again and that evening he was very downhearted .indeed

".I was mistaken," he said. "My father was an Donkey after all"

.Be sure of your pedigree before you boast of it

THE OAK AND THE REEDS [۶۸]

A Giant Oak stood near a brook in which grew some slender Reeds. When the wind blew, the great Oak stood proudly upright with its hundred arms uplifted to the sky. .But the Reeds bowed low in the wind and sang a sad and mournful song

You have reason to complain," said the Oak. "The slightest breeze that ruffles the" surface of the water makes you bow your heads, while I, the mighty Oak, stand ".upright and firm before the howling tempest

Do not worry about us," replied the Reeds. "The winds do not harm us. We bow" before them and so we do not break. You, in all your pride and strength, have so far ".resisted their blows. But the end is coming

As the Reeds spoke a great hurricane rushed out of the north. The Oak stood proudly and fought against the storm, while the yielding Reeds bowed low. The wind redoubled in fury, and all at once the great tree fell, torn up by the roots, and lay .among the pitying Reeds

Better to yield when it is folly to resist, than to

.resist stubbornly and be destroyed

THE OLD LION AND THE FOX [۶۹]

An old Lion, whose teeth and claws were so worn that it was not so easy for him to get food as in his younger days, pretended that he was sick. He took care to let all his neighbors know about it, and then lay down in his cave to wait for visitors. And when .they came to offer him their sympathy, he ate them up one by one

The Fox came too, but he was very cautious about it. Standing at a safe distance from the cave, he inquired politely after the Lion's health. The Lion replied that he was very ill indeed, and asked the Fox to step in for a moment. But Master Fox very wisely .stayed outside, thanking the Lion very kindly for the invitation

I should be glad to do as you ask," he added, "but I have noticed that there are many" footprints leading into your cave and none coming out. Pray tell me, how do your "?visitors find their way out again

.Take warning from the misfortunes of others

THE OWL AND THE GRASSHOPPER [۷۰]

The Owl always takes her sleep during the day. Then after sundown, when the rosy light fades from the sky and the shadows rise slowly through the wood, out she comes ruffling and blinking from the old hollow tree. Now her weird "hoo-hoo-hoo-oo-oo" echoes through the quiet wood, and she begins her hunt for the bugs and .beetles, frogs and mice she likes so well to eat

Now there was a certain old Owl who had become very cross and hard to please

as she grew older, especially if anything disturbed her daily slumbers. One warm summer afternoon as she dozed away in her den in the old oak tree, a Grasshopper nearby began a joyous but very raspy song. Out popped the old Owl's head from the .opening in the tree that served her both for door and for window

Get away from here, sir," she said to the Grasshopper. "Have you no manners? You" "!should at least respect my age and leave me to sleep in quiet

But the Grasshopper answered saucily that he had as much right to his place in the sun as the Owl had to her place in the old oak. Then he struck up a louder and still .more rasping tune

The wise old Owl knew quite well that it would do no good to argue with the Grasshopper, nor with anybody else for that matter. Besides, her eyes were not sharp enough by day to permit

her to punish the Grasshopper as he deserved. So she laid aside all hard words and .spoke very kindly to him

Well sir," she said, "if I must stay awake, I am going to settle right down to enjoy"

.your singing

Now that I think of it, I have a wonderful wine here, sent me from Olympus, of which I am told Apollo drinks before he sings to the high gods. Please come up and taste this ".delicious drink with me. I know it will make you sing like Apollo himself

The foolish Grasshopper was taken in by the Owl's flattering

words. Up he jumped to the Owl's den, but as soon as he was near enough so the old .Owl could see him clearly, she pounced upon him and ate him up

.Flattery is not a proof of true admiration

.Do not let flattery throw you off your guard against an enemy

THE OXEN AND THE WHEELS [۷۱]

A pair of Oxen were drawing a heavily loaded wagon along a miry country road. They .had to use all their strength to pull the wagon, but they did not complain

The Wheels of the wagon were of a different sort. Though the task they had to do was very light compared with that of the Oxen, they creaked and groaned at every turn. The poor Oxen, pulling with all their might to draw the wagon through the deep mud, had their ears filled with the loud complaining of the Wheels. And this, you may .well know, made their work so much the harder to endure

Silence!" the Oxen cried at last, out of patience. "What have you Wheels to complain" about so loudly? We are drawing all the weight, not you, and we are keeping still ".about it besides

.They complain most who suffer least

THE PEACOCK [۷۲]

The Peacock, they say, did not at first have the beautiful feathers in which he now takes so much pride. These, Juno, whose favorite he was, granted to him one day when he begged her for a train of feathers to distinguish him from the other birds.

Then, decked in his finery, gleaming with emerald, gold, purple, and azure, he strutted proudly among the birds. All regarded him with envy. Even the most beautiful .pheasant could see that his beauty was surpassed

Presently the Peacock saw an Eagle soaring high up in the blue sky and felt a desire to fly, as he had been accustomed to do. Lifting his wings he tried

to rise from the ground. But the weight of his magnificent train held him down. Instead of flying up to greet the first rays of the morning sun or to bathe in the rosy light among the floating clouds at sunset, he would have to walk the ground more .encumbered and oppressed than any common barnyard fowl

.Do not sacrifice your freedom for the sake of pomp and show

THE PEACOCK AND THE CRANE [۷۳]

A Peacock, puffed up with vanity, met a Crane one day, and to impress him spread his .gorgeous tail in the Sun

Look," he said. "What have you to compare with this? I am dressed in all the glory of" "!the rainbow, while your feathers are gray as dust

.The Crane spread his broad wings and flew up toward the sun

Follow me if you can," he said. But the Peacock stood where he was among the birds" .of the barnyard, while the Crane soared in freedom far up into the blue sky

.The useful is of much more importance and value, than the ornamental

THE PLANE TREE [۷۴]

Two Travelers, walking in the noonday sun, sought the shade of a wide-spreading tree to rest. As they lay looking up among the pleasant leaves, they saw that it was a .Plane Tree

How useless is the Plane!" said one of them. "It bears no fruit whatever, and only" ".serves to litter the ground with leaves

Ungrateful creatures!" said a voice from the Plane Tree. "You lie here in my cooling " shade, and yet you say I am useless! Thus ungratefully, O Jupiter, do men receive "!their blessings

.Our best blessings are often the least appreciated

THE RAT AND THE ELEPHANT [۷۵]

A Rat was traveling along the King's highway. He was a very proud Rat, considering his small size and the bad reputation all Rats have. As Mr. Rat walked along—he kept mostly to the ditch—he noticed a great commotion up the road, and soon a grand .procession came in view. It was the King and his retinue

The King rode on a huge Elephant adorned with the most gorgeous trappings. With the King in his luxurious howdah were the royal Dog and Cat. A great crowd of people followed the procession. They were so taken up with admiration of the Elephant, that .the Rat was not noticed. His pride was hurt

What fools!" he cried. "Look at me, and you will soon forget that clumsy Elephant! Is it" his great size that makes your eyes pop out? Or is it his wrinkled hide? Why, I have —"eyes and ears and as many legs as he! I am of just as much importance, and

But just

then the royal Cat spied him, and the next instant, the Rat knew he was not quite so .important as an Elephant

.A resemblance to the great in some things does not make us great

THE ROOSTER AND THE FOX [۷۶]

One bright evening as the sun was sinking on a glorious world a wise old Rooster flew into a tree to roost. Before he composed himself to rest, he flapped his wings three times and crowed loudly. But just as he was about to put his head under his wing, his beady eyes caught a flash of red and a glimpse of a long pointed nose, and there just .below him stood Master Fox

Have you heard the wonderful news?" cried the Fox in a very joyful and excited" .manner

What news?" asked the Rooster very calmly. But he had a queer, fluttery feeling" .inside him, for, you know, he was very much afraid of the Fox

Your family and mine and all other animals have agreed to forget their differences" and live in peace and friendship from now on forever. Just think of it! I simply cannot wait to embrace you! Do come down, dear friend, and let us celebrate the joyful ".event

How grand!" said the Rooster. "I certainly am delighted at the news." But he spoke in" an absent way, and stretching up on tiptoes, seemed to be looking at something afar .off

.What is it you see?" asked the Fox a little anxiously"

Why, it looks to me like a couple of Dogs coming this way. They must have heard the" good news

"—and

.But the Fox did not wait to hear more. Off he started on a run

"!Wait," cried the Rooster. "Why do you run? The Dogs are friends of yours now"

Yes," answered the Fox. "But they might not have heard the news. Besides, I have a" ".very important errand that I had almost forgotten about

The Rooster smiled as he buried his head in his feathers and went to sleep, for he had .succeeded in outwitting a very crafty enemy

.The trickster is easily tricked

THE ROOSTER AND THE JEWEL [٧٧]

A Rooster was busily scratching and scraping about to find something to eat for

himself and his family, when he happened to turn up a precious jewel that had been .lost by its owner

Aha!" said the Rooster. "No doubt you are very costly and he who lost you would give" a great deal to find you. But as for me, I would choose a single grain of barleycorn ".before all the jewels in the world

.Precious things are without value to those who cannot prize them

THE SERPENT AND THE EAGLE [۷۸]

A Serpent had succeeded in surprising an Eagle and had wrapped himself around the Eagle's neck. The Eagle could not reach the Serpent, neither with beak nor claws. Far into the sky he soared trying to shake off his enemy. But the Serpent's hold only .tightened, and slowly the Eagle sank back to earth, gasping for breath

A Countryman chanced to see the unequal combat. In pity for the noble Eagle he .rushed up and soon had loosened the coiling Serpent and freed the Eagle

The Serpent was furious. He had no chance to bite the watchful Countryman. Instead he struck at the drinking horn, hanging at the Countryman's belt, and into it let fly the .poison of his fangs

The Countryman now went on toward home. Becoming thirsty on the way, he filled his horn at a spring, and was about to drink. There was a sudden rush of great wings. Sweeping down, the Eagle seized the poisoned horn from out his savior's hands, and flew away with it to hide it

.where it could never be found

.An act of kindness is well repaid

THE SHEEP AND THE PIG [۷۹]

One day a shepherd discovered a fat Pig in the meadow where his Sheep were pastured. He very quickly captured the porker, which squealed at the top of its voice

the moment the Shepherd laid his hands on it. You would have thought, to hear the loud squealing, that the Pig was being cruelly hurt. But in spite of its squeals and struggles to escape, the Shepherd tucked his prize under his arm and started off to .the butcher's in the market place

The Sheep in the pasture were much astonished and amused at the Pig's behavior, .and followed the Shepherd and his charge to the pasture gate

What makes you squeal like that?" asked one of the Sheep. "The Shepherd often" catches and carries off one of us. But we should feel very much ashamed to make ".such a terrible fuss about it like you do

That is all very well," replied the Pig, with a squeal and a frantic kick. "When he" "!catches you he is only after your wool. But he wants my bacon! gree-ee-ee

.It is easy to be brave when there is no danger

THE SHEPHERD BOY AND THE WOLF [۸۰]

A Shepherd Boy tended his master's Sheep near a dark forest not far from the village. Soon he found life in the pasture very dull. All he could do to amuse himself was to talk .to his dog or play on his shepherd's pipe

One day as he sat watching the Sheep and the quiet forest, and thinking what he would do should he see a Wolf, he thought of a

.plan to amuse himself

His Master had told him to call for help should a Wolf attack the flock, and the Villagers would drive it away. So now, though he had not seen anything that even looked like a "!Wolf, he ran toward the village shouting at the top of his voice, "Wolf! Wolf

As he expected, the Villagers who heard the cry dropped their work and

ran in great excitement to the pasture. But when they got there they found the Boy .doubled up with laughter at the trick he had played on them

A few days later the Shepherd Boy again shouted, "Wolf! Wolf!" Again the Villagers .ran to help him, only to be laughed at again

Then one evening as the sun was setting behind the forest and the shadows were creeping out over the pasture, a Wolf really did spring from the underbrush and fall .upon the Sheep

In terror the Boy ran toward the village shouting "Wolf! Wolf!" But though the Villagers heard the cry, they did not run to help him as they had before. "He cannot fool us .again," they said

.The Wolf killed a great many of the Boy's sheep and then slipped away into the forest

.Liars are not believed even when they speak the truth

THE SICK STAG [۸۱]

A Stag had fallen sick. He had just strength enough to gather some food and find a quiet clearing in the woods, where he lay down to wait until his strength should return. The Animals heard about the Stag's illness and came to ask after his health. Of

course, they were all hungry, and helped themselves freely to the Stag's food; and as .you would expect, the Stag soon starved to death

.Good will is worth nothing unless it is accompanied by good acts

THE SPENDTHRIFT AND THE SWALLOW [۸۲]

A young fellow, who was very popular among his boon companions as a good spender, quickly wasted his fortune trying to live up to his reputation. Then one fine day in early spring he found himself with not a penny left, and no property save the .clothes he wore

He was to meet some jolly young men that morning, and he was at his wits' end how to get enough money to keep up appearances. Just then a Swallow flew by, twittering merrily, and the young man, thinking summer had come, hastened off to a clothes

.dealer, to whom he sold all the clothes he wore down to his very tunic

A few days later a change in weather brought a severe frost; and the poor swallow and that foolish young man in his light tunic, and with his arms and knees bare, could .scarcely keep life in their shivering bodies

.One swallow does not make a summer

THE STAG AND HIS REFLECTION [۸۳]

A Stag, drinking from a crystal spring, saw himself mirrored in the clear water. He greatly admired the graceful arch of his antlers, but he was very much ashamed of his .spindling legs

How can it be," he sighed, "that I should be cursed with such legs when I have so" ".magnificent a crown

At that moment he scented a panther and in an instant was bounding away through the forest. But as he ran his wide-spreading antlers caught in the branches of the trees, and soon the Panther overtook him. Then the Stag perceived that the legs of which he was

so ashamed would have saved him had it not been for the useless ornaments on his .head

.We often make much of the ornamental and despise the useful

THE TORTOISE AND THE DUCKS [۸۴]

.along

The Tortoise, you know, carries his house on his back. No matter how hard he tries, he cannot leave home. They say that Jupiter punished him so, because he was such a lazy stay-at-home that he would not go to Jupiter's wedding, even when especially .invited

After many years, Tortoise began to wish he had gone to that wedding. When he saw

how gaily the birds flew about and how the Hare and the Chipmunk and all the other animals ran nimbly by, always eager to see everything there was to be seen, the Tortoise felt very sad and discontented. He wanted to see the world too, and there he was with a house on his back and little short legs that could hardly drag him

.One day he met a pair of Ducks and told them all his trouble

We can help you to see the world," said the Ducks. "Take hold of this stick with your " teeth and we will carry you far up in the air where you can see the whole countryside. ".But keep quiet or you will be sorry

The Tortoise was very glad indeed. He seized the stick firmly with his teeth, the two .Ducks took hold of it one at each end, and away they sailed up toward the clouds

Just then a Crow flew by. He was very much astonished at the strange sight and

:cried

.This must surely be the King of Tortoises!" "Why certainly——" began the Tortoise"

But as he opened his mouth to say these foolish words he lost his hold on the stick, .and down he fell to the ground, where he was dashed to pieces on a rock

.Foolish curiosity and vanity often lead to misfortune

THE TOWN MOUSE AND THE COUNTRY MOUSE [۸۵]

.the simple food only to be polite

A Town Mouse once visited a relative who lived in the country. For lunch the Country Mouse served wheat stalks, roots, and acorns, with a dash of cold water for drink. The Town Mouse ate very sparingly, nibbling a little of this and a little of that, and by her manner making it very plain that she ate

After the meal the friends had a long talk, or rather the Town Mouse talked about her life in the city while the Country Mouse listened. They then went to bed in a cozy nest in the hedgerow and slept in quiet and comfort until morning. In her sleep the Country

Mouse dreamed she was a Town Mouse with all the luxuries and delights of city life that her friend had described for her. So the next day when the Town Mouse asked .the Country Mouse to go home with her to the city, she gladly said yes

When they reached the mansion in which the Town Mouse lived, they found on the table in the dining room the leavings of a very fine banquet. There were sweetmeats and jellies, pastries, delicious cheeses, indeed, the most tempting foods that a

Mouse can imagine. But just as the Country Mouse was about to nibble a dainty bit of pastry, she heard a Cat mew loudly and scratch at the door. In great fear the Mice scurried to a hiding place, where they lay quite still for a long time, hardly daring to breathe. When at last they ventured back to the feast, the door opened suddenly and .in came the servants to clear the table, followed by the House Dog

The Country Mouse stopped in the Town Mouse's den only long enough to pick up her .carpet bag and umbrella

You may have luxuries and dainties that I have not," she said as she hurried away," "but I prefer my plain food and simple life in the country with the peace and security ".that go with it

.Poverty with security is better than plenty in the midst of fear and uncertainty

THE TRAVELERS AND THE PURSE [۸۶]

Two men were traveling in company along the road when one of them picked up a .well-filled purse

How lucky I am!" he said. "I have found a purse. Judging by its weight it must be full" ".of gold

Do not say 'I have found a purse,'" said his companion. "Say rather 'we have found a" purse' and 'how lucky we are.' Travelers ought to share alike the fortunes or ".misfortunes of the road

".No, no," replied the other angrily. "I found it and I am going to keep it"

"!Just then they heard a shout of "Stop, thief

and looking around, saw a mob of people armed with clubs coming down the

.road

The man who had found the purse fell into a panic. "We are lost if they find the purse .on us," he cried

No, no," replied the other, "You would not say 'we' before, so now stick to your 'I'." "'.Say 'I am lost

We cannot expect any one to share our misfortunes unless we are willing to share our .good fortune also

THE TRAVELERS AND THE SEA [۸۷]

Two Travelers were walking along the seashore. Far out they saw something riding .on the waves

"!Look," said one, "a great ship rides in from distant lands, bearing rich treasures"

.The object they saw came ever nearer the shore

No," said the other, "that is not a treasure ship. That is some fisherman's skiff, with" ".the day's catch of savory fish

.Still nearer came the object. The waves washed it up on shore

It is a chest of gold lost from some wreck," they cried. Both Travelers rushed to the" .beach, but there they found nothing but a water-soaked log

.Do not let your hopes carry you away from reality

THE TWO GOATS [۸۸]

Two Goats, frisking gaily on the rocky steeps of a mountain valley, chanced to meet, one on each side of a deep chasm through which poured a mighty mountain torrent.

The trunk of a fallen tree formed the only means of crossing the chasm, and on this not even two squirrels could have passed each other in safety. The narrow path would have made the bravest tremble. Not so our Goats. Their pride would not permit .either to stand aside for the other

One set her foot on the log. The other did likewise. In the middle they met horn to horn. Neither would give way, and so they both fell, to be swept away by the roaring .torrent below

It is better to yield than to come to misfortune through stubbornness

THE TWO POTS [۸۹]

Two Pots, one of brass and the other of clay, stood together on the hearthstone. One day the Brass Pot proposed to the Earthen Pot that they go out into the world together. But the Earthen Pot excused himself, saying that it would be wiser for him to .stay in the corner by the fire

It would take so little to break me," he said. "You know how fragile I am. The least" "!shock is sure to shatter me

Don't let that keep you at home," urged the Brass Pot. "I shall take very good care of" ".you. If we should happen to meet anything hard I will step between and save you

,So the Earthen Pot at last consented, and the two set out side by side

jolting along on three stubby legs first to this side, then to that, and bumping into each .other at every step

The Earthen Pot could not survive that sort of companionship very long. They had not gone ten paces before the Earthen Pot cracked, and at the next jolt he flew into a .thousand pieces

.Equals make the best friends

THE VAIN JACKDAW AND HIS BORROWED FEATHERS [۹۰]

A Jackdaw chanced to fly over the garden of the King's palace. There he saw with much wonder and envy a flock of royal Peacocks in all the glory of their splendid .plumage

Now the black Jackdaw was not a very handsome bird, nor very refined in manner. Yet he imagined that all he needed to make himself fit for the society of the Peacocks was a dress like theirs. So he picked up some castoff feathers of the Peacocks and .stuck them among his own black plumes

Dressed in his borrowed finery he strutted loftily among the birds of his own kind. Then he flew down into the garden among the Peacocks. But they soon saw who he was. Angry at the cheat, they flew at him, plucking away the borrowed feathers and .also some of his own

The poor Jackdaw returned sadly to his former companions. There another unpleasant surprise awaited him. They had not forgotten his superior airs toward .them, and, to punish him, they drove him away with a rain of pecks and jeers

.Borrowed feathers do not make fine birds

THE WILD BOAR AND THE FOX [۹۱]

A Wild Boar was sharpening his tusks busily against the stump of a tree, when a Fox happened by. Now the Fox was always looking for a chance to make fun of his neighbors. So he made a great show of looking anxiously about, as if in fear of some .hidden enemy. But the Boar kept right on with his work

Why are you doing that?" asked the Fox at last with a grin. "There"

".isn't any danger that I can see

True enough," replied the Boar, "but when danger does come there will not be time" for such work as this. My weapons will have to be ready for use then, or I shall suffer ".for it

.Preparedness for war is the best guarantee of peace

THE WOLF AND HIS SHADOW [۹۲]

A Wolf left his lair one evening in fine spirits and an excellent appetite. As he ran, the setting sun cast his shadow far out on the ground, and it looked as if the wolf were a .hundred times bigger than he really was

Why," exclaimed the Wolf proudly, "see how big I am! Fancy me running away from" ".a puny Lion! I'll show him who is fit to be king, he or I

Just then an immense shadow blotted him out entirely, and the next instant a Lion .struck him down with a single blow

.Do not let your fancy make you forget realities

THE WOLF AND THE CRANE [۹۳]

A Wolf had been feasting too greedily, and a bone had stuck crosswise in his throat. He could get it neither up nor down, and of course he could not eat a thing. Naturally .that was an awful state of affairs for a greedy Wolf

So away he hurried to the Crane. He was sure that she, with her long neck and bill, .would easily be able to reach the bone and pull it out

".I will reward you very handsomely," said the Wolf, "if you pull that bone out for me"

The Crane, as you can imagine, was very uneasy about putting her head in a Wolf's .throat. But she was grasping in nature, so she did what the Wolf asked her to do

When the Wolf felt that the bone was gone, he started to walk away. "But what about .my reward!" called the Crane anxiously

?What!" snarled the Wolf, whirling around. "Haven't you got it"

"?Isn't it enough that I let you take your head out of my mouth without snapping it off

.Expect no reward for serving the wicked

THE WOLF AND THE DONKEY [۹۴]

A Donkey was feeding in a pasture near a wood when he saw a Wolf lurking in the shadows along the hedge. He easily guessed what the Wolf had in mind, and thought .of a plan to save himself. So he pretended he was lame, and began to hobble painfully

When the Wolf came up, he asked the Donkey what had made him lame, and the .Donkey replied that he had stepped on a sharp thorn

Please pull it out," he pleaded, groaning as if in pain. "If you do not, it might stick in" ".your throat when you eat me

The Wolf saw the wisdom of the advice, for he wanted to enjoy his meal without any danger of choking. So the Donkey lifted up his foot and the Wolf began to search very .closely and carefully for the thorn

Just then the Donkey kicked out with all his might, tumbling the Wolf a dozen paces away. And while the Wolf was getting very slowly and painfully to his feet, the Donkey .galloped away in safety

Serves me right," growled the Wolf as he crept into the bushes. "I'm a butcher by" ".trade, not a doctor

.Stick to your trade

THE WOLF AND THE GOAT [۹۵]

A hungry Wolf spied a Goat browsing at the top of a steep cliff where he could not .possibly get at her

That is a very dangerous place for you," he called out, pretending to be very anxious" about the Goat's safety. "What if you should fall! Please listen to me and come down! Here you can get all you want

".of the finest, tenderest grass in the country

.The Goat looked over the edge of the cliff

How very, very anxious you are about me," she said, "and how generous you are" "!with your grass! But I know you! It's your own appetite you are thinking of, not mine

.An invitation prompted by selfishness is not to be accepted

THE WOLF AND THE HOUSE DOG [۹۶]

There was once a Wolf who got very little to eat because the Dogs of the village were so wide awake and watchful. He was really nothing but skin and bones, and it made .him very downhearted to think of it

One night this Wolf happened to fall in with a fine fat House Dog who had wandered a little too far from home. The Wolf would gladly have eaten him then and there, but the House Dog looked strong enough to leave his marks should he try it. So the Wolf .spoke very humbly to the Dog, complimenting him on his fine appearance

You can be as well-fed as I am if you want to," replied the Dog. "Leave the woods;" there you live miserably. Why, you have to fight hard for every bite you get. Follow my ".example and you will get along beautifully

.What must I do?" asked the Wolf"

Hardly anything," answered the House Dog. "Chase people who carry canes, bark at" beggars, and fawn on the people of the house. In return you will get tidbits of every kind, chicken bones, choice bits of meat, sugar, cake, and much more beside, not to speak of kind words and

".caresses

The Wolf had such a beautiful vision of his coming happiness that he almost wept. But just then he noticed that the hair on the Dog's neck was worn and the skin was .chafed

"?What is that on your neck"

"!Nothing at all," replied the Dog. "What! nothing"

".Oh, just a trifle!" "But please tell me"

".Perhaps you see the mark of the collar to which my chain is fastened"

What! A chain!" cried the Wolf. "Don't you go wherever you please?" "Not always! But" .what's the difference?" replied the Dog

All the difference in the world! I don't care a rap for your feasts and I wouldn't take all" the tender young lambs in the world at that price." And away ran the Wolf to the .woods

.There is nothing worth so much as liberty

THE WOLF AND THE KID [۹۷]

There was once a little Kid whose growing horns made him think he was a grown-up Billy Goat and able to take care of himself. So one evening when the flock started home from the pasture and his mother called, the Kid paid no heed and kept right on .nibbling the tender grass. A little later when he lifted his head, the flock was gone

He was all alone. The sun was sinking. Long shadows came creeping over the ground. A chilly little wind came creeping with them making scary noises in the grass. The Kid shivered as he thought of the terrible Wolf. Then he started wildly over the field, -bleating for his mother. But not half

!way, near a clump of trees, there was the Wolf

.The Kid knew there was little hope for him

Please, Mr. Wolf," he said trembling, "I know you are going to eat me. But first please" ".pipe me a tune, for I want to dance and be merry as long as I can

The Wolf liked the idea of a little music before eating, so he struck up a merry tune .and the Kid leaped and frisked gaily

Meanwhile, the flock was moving slowly homeward. In the still evening air the Wolf's piping carried far. The Shepherd Dogs pricked up their ears. They recognized the song

the Wolf sings before a feast, and in a moment they were racing back to the pasture. The Wolf's song ended suddenly, and as he ran, with the Dogs at his heels, he called himself a fool for turning piper to please a Kid, when he should have stuck to his .butcher's trade

.The Moral of the Story is – Do not let anything turn you from your purpose

THE WOLF AND THE LAMB [۹۸]

A stray Lamb stood drinking early one morning on the bank of a woodland stream. That very same morning a hungry Wolf came by farther up the stream, hunting for something to eat. He soon got his eyes on the Lamb. As a rule Mr. Wolf snapped up such delicious morsels without making any bones about it, but this Lamb looked so very helpless and

.innocent that the Wolf felt he ought to have some kind of an excuse for taking its life

How dare you paddle around in my stream and stir up all the"

"!mud!" he shouted fiercely. "You deserve to be punished severely for your rashness

But, your highness," replied the trembling Lamb, "do not be angry! I cannot possibly" muddy the water you are drinking up there. Remember, you are upstream and I am ".downstream

You do muddy it!" retorted the Wolf savagely. "And besides, I have heard that you" "!told lies about me last year

".How could I have done so?" pleaded the Lamb. "I wasn't born until this year"

".If it wasn't you, it was your brother!" "I have no brothers"

Well, then," snarled the Wolf, "It was someone in your family anyway. But no matter" ".who it was, I do not intend to be talked out of my breakfast

And without more words the Wolf seized the poor Lamb and carried her off to the .forest

.The tyrant can always find an excuse for his tyranny

.The unjust will not listen to the reasoning of the innocent

THE WOLF AND THE LEAN DOG [۹۹]

A Wolf prowling near a village one evening met a Dog. It happened to be a very lean and bony Dog, and Master Wolf would have turned up his nose at such meager fare had he not been more hungry than usual. So he began to edge toward the Dog, while .the Dog backed away

Let me remind your lordship," said the Dog, his words interrupted now and then as" he dodged a snap of the Wolf's teeth, "how unpleasant it would be to eat me now. Look at my ribs. I am nothing but skin and bone. But let me tell you something in .private

In a few days my master will give a wedding feast for his only daughter. You can guess how fine and fat I will grow on the scraps from the table. Then is the time to eat ".me

The Wolf could not help thinking how nice it would be to have a fine fat Dog to eat instead of the scrawny object before him. So he went away pulling in his belt and .promising to return

Some days later the Wolf came back for the promised feast. He found the Dog in his .master's yard, and asked him to come out and be eaten

Sir," said the Dog, with a grin, "I shall be delighted to have you eat me. I'll be out as" ".soon as the porter opens the door

But the "porter" was a huge Dog whom the Wolf knew by painful experience to be very unkind toward wolves. So he decided not to wait and made off as fast as his legs .could carry him

.Do not depend on the promises of those whose interest it is to deceive you

.Take what you can get when you can get it

THE WOLF AND THE LION [١٠٠]

A Wolf had stolen a Lamb and was carrying it off to his lair to eat it. But his plans were very much changed when he met a Lion, who, without making any excuses, took the .Lamb away from him

:The Wolf made off to a safe distance, and then said in a much injured tone

"!You have no right to take my property like that"

The Lion looked back, but

as the Wolf was too far away to be taught a lesson without too much inconvenience, :he said

Your property? Did you buy it, or did the Shepherd make you a gift of it? Pray tell me," "?how did you get it

.What is evil won is evil lost

THE WOLF AND THE SHEEP [١٠١]

A Wolf had been hurt in a fight with a Bear. He was unable to move and could not satisfy his hunger and thirst. A Sheep passed by near his hiding place, and the Wolf .called to him

Please fetch me a drink of water," he begged, "that might give me strength enough" ".so I can get me some solid food

Solid food!" said the Sheep. "That means me, I suppose. If I should bring you a drink," "!it would only serve to wash me down your throat. Don't talk to me about a drink

.A knave's hypocrisy is easily seen through

THE WOLF AND THE SHEPHERD [١٠٢]

A Wolf had been prowling around a flock of Sheep for a long time, and the Shepherd watched very anxiously to prevent him from carrying off a Lamb. But the Wolf did not try to do any harm. Instead he seemed to be helping the Shepherd take care of the Sheep. At last the Shepherd got so used to seeing the Wolf about that he forgot how .wicked he could be

One day he even went so far as to leave his flock in the Wolf's care while he went on an errand. But when he came back and saw how many of the flock had been killed and .carried off, he knew how foolish to trust a Wolf

.Once a wolf, always a wolf

THE WOLF AND THE SHEPHERD [۱۰۳]

A Wolf, lurking near the Shepherd's hut, saw the Shepherd and his family feasting on .a roasted lamb

Aha!" he muttered. "What a great shouting and running about there would have" been, had they caught me at just the very thing they are doing with so much "!enjoyment

.Men often condemn others for what they see no wrong in doing themselves

THE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING [۱۰۴]

A certain Wolf could not get enough to eat because of the watchfulness of the Shepherds. But one night he found a sheep skin that had been cast aside and forgotten. The next day, dressed in the skin, the Wolf strolled into the pasture with the Sheep. Soon a little Lamb was following him about and was quickly led away to .slaughter

That evening the Wolf entered the fold with the flock. But it happened that the Shepherd took a fancy for mutton broth that very evening, and, picking up a knife, .went to the fold. There the first he laid hands on and killed was the Wolf

.The evil doer often comes to harm through his own deceit

THE YOUNG CRAB AND HIS MOTHER [۱۰۵]

Why in the world do you walk sideways like that?" said a Mother Crab to her son." "."You should always walk straight forward with your toes turned out

Show me how to walk, mother dear," answered the little Crab obediently, "I want to" ".learn

So the old Crab tried and tried to walk straight forward. But she could walk sideways only, like her son. And when she wanted to turn her toes out she tripped and fell on .her nose

.Do not tell others how to act unless you can set a good example

THREE BULLOCKS AND A LION [۱۰۶]

A Lion had been watching three Bullocks feeding in an open field. He had tried to attack them several times, but they had kept together, and helped each other to drive him off. The Lion had little hope of eating them, for he was no match for three strong Bullocks with their sharp horns and hoofs. But he could not keep away from that field, for it is hard to resist watching a good meal, even when there is little chance of getting .it

Then one day the Bullocks had a quarrel, and when the hungry Lion came to look at them and lick his chops as he was accustomed to do, he found them in separate .corners of the field, as far away from one another as they could get

It was now an easy matter for the Lion to attack them one at a time, and this he .proceeded to do with the greatest satisfaction and relish

.In unity is strength

About center

In the name of Allah

هَلْيَسْتَوِيالَّذِينَيَعْلَمُونَوَالَّذِينَلَايَعْلَمُونَ

?Are those who know equal to those who do not know

al-Zumar: ۹

:Introduction

Ghaemiyeh Computer Research Institute of Isfahan, from ۲۰۰۷, under the authority of Ayatollah Haj SayyedHasanFaqihImami (God blesses his soul), by sincere and daily efforts of university and seminary elites and sophisticated groups began its activities .in religious, cultural and scientific fields

:Manifesto

Ghaemiyeh Computer Research Institute of Isfahan in order to facilitate and accelerate the accessibility of researchers to the books and tools of research, in the field of Islamic science, and regarding the multiplicity and dispersion of active centers in this field

and numerous and inaccessible sources by a mere scientific intention and far from any kind of social, political, tribal and personal prejudices and currents, based on performing a project in the shape of (management of produced and published works from all Shia centers) tries to provide a rich and free collection of books and research papers for the experts, and helpful contents and discussions for the educated generation and all classes of people interested in reading, with various formats in the .cyberspace

:Our Goals are

(propagating the culture and teachings of Thaqalayn (Quran and Ahlulbayt p.b.u.t-

encouraging the populace particularly the youth in investigating the religious issues-

replacing useful contents with useless ones in the cellphones, tablets and computers-

providing services for seminary and university researchers-

spreading culture study in the publich-

paving the way for the publications and authors to digitize their works-

:Policies

acting according to the legal licenses-

relationship with similar centers-

avoiding parallel working-

merely presenting scientific contents-

mentioning the sources-

.It's obvious that all the responsibilities are due to the author

:Other activities of the institute

Publication of books, booklets and other editions-

Holding book reading competitions-

Producing virtual, three dimensional exhibitions, panoramas of religious and tourism- places

.Producing animations, computer games and etc-

Launching the website with this address: www.ghaemiyeh.com-

Fabricatingdramatic and speech works-

Launching the system of answering religious, ethical and doctrinal questions-

Designing systems of accounting, media and mobile, automatic and handy systems,- web kiosks

Holding virtual educational courses for the public-

Holding virtual teacher-training courses-

Producing thousands of research software in three languages (Persian, Arabic and- English) which can be performed in computers, tablets and cellphones and available and downloadable with eight international formats: JAVA, ANDROID, EPUB, CHM, PDF, HTML, CHM, GHB on the website

Also producing four markets named "Ghaemiyeh Book Market" with Android, IOS,- WINDOWS PHONE and WINDOWS editions

:Appreciation

We would appreciate the centers, institutes, publications, authors and all honorable .friends who contributed their help and data to us to reach the holy goal we follow

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